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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Te application of:

Group Art Unit:

2121

Evelitsa Schweizerhof et al.

Examiner:

Patel, Ramesh B.

Serial No.:

10/708,057

Filed:

February 5, 2004

For:

COMPUTER-IMPLEMENTED METHOD FOR ANALYZING A PROBLEM STATEMENT BASED ON AN INTEGRATION OF SIX SIGMA, LEAN MANUFACTURING, AND KAIZEN

ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES

Attorney Docket No.: 81072993 / FMC 1630 PUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND FEE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent & Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and §§ 1.97-1.98, the references listed and identified on the attached Form PTO/SB08B are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. This Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), i.e., after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but before the mailing of a final action or a notice of allowance, and includes the fee of \$180.00 as set forth under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

07/05/2005 AKELECHI 00000015 OKYSTIJE this Statement is being filed in compliance with the duty of disclosure, 01 FC:1806 180.00 DA

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper, including all enclosures referred to herein, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage pre-paid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

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citation of the listed references is not to be construed as an admission that any of the references are "material" as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

No copies of the listed U.S. patent references or the listed U.S. patent application publication references have been included herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). All other references have been provided as required. Consideration and entry into the record of the listed references is respectfully requested.

Please charge the fee of \$180.00 as set forth under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), as well as any additional fees, or credit any overpayment in connection with this filing, to Ford Global Technologies LLC, Deposit Account No. 06-1510.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelitsa Schweizerhof et al.

By:

John R. Buser

Reg. No. 51,517

Attorney/Agent for Applicant

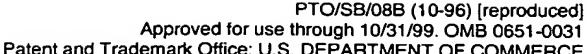
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Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Complete if Known Substitute for Form 1449B/PTO **Application Number** 10/708,057 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date February 5, 2004 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Evelitsa Schweizerhof et al **First Named Inventor Group Art Unit** 2121 (use as many sheets as necessary) Examiner Name Patel, Ramesh B. Sheet of **Attorney Docket Number** 81072993 / FMC 1630 PUS OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), Examiner T² Initials ' Cite No.1 publisher, city and/or country where published. www.isixsigma.com/library/content, "Is This a Sigma, Lean or Kaizen Project?" 12 pages, 6/18/2003. R. Trombly, "Running Lean Running Strong", Industrial Distribution, August 2002, www.inddist.com, pages 53-54 and 56. M.L. George, "Lean Six Sigma: Combining Six Sigma Quality with Lean Speed", 2002, pages 181-225, McGraw-Hill. C. Ellins, "Kaizen College, Making Good Businesses Great", Programme 2003-2004, pages 1-24 P. Gupta, "Design for Six Sigma and Lean Manufacturing", Quality Technology Company, December 2001, Circuits Assembly, 3 pages. www.sixsiqmasystems.com, "Six Sigma Systems - Leaders in Learning for the Bottom Line", 1999-2002, Six Sigma Systems, Inc., 2 pages. www.sixsigmasystems.com/six_sigma_sigmanow_training.htm, "Advanced six sigma & lean manufacturing training through SigmaNow**, 1999-2002, Six Sigma Systems, Inc., 1 page. www.store.sae.org/topics/leanfeb01.htm, "Seamless Integration of Lean Enterprise And Six Sigma", 2003, SAE International, 3 pages. M. Baudin, "Six Sigma and Lean Manufacturing", The E-Newsletter of Lean Manufacturing, July 2002, 6 pages.

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Signature	Considered	

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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